

REMARKS

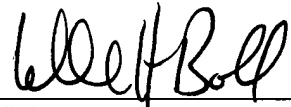
By this amendment, claims 1-21 are canceled. Thus, claims 22 & 23 remain pending in the present application.

CLAIM OF PRIORITY

The Applicant hereby claims priority under 35 U.S.C. §120 to Application No. 09/441,077, filed November 16, 1999, currently pending.

The specification of the present application is amended to contain a specific reference to the earlier filed application as required by 35 U.S.C. §120.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'William H. Bollman', is written over a horizontal line.

William H. Bollman
Reg. No. 36,457

MANELLI DENISON & SELTER PLLC
2000 M Street, NW
Suite 700
Washington, DC 20036-3307
TEL. (202) 261-1020
FAX. (202) 887-0336